

# 95th Division (Training) Public Affairs Office

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For Immediate Release

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## DIVISION CHANGE OF COMMAND - BRIG. GEN. ARCHER MOVES UP

Brig. Gen. James E. Archer will assume command of the 95<sup>th</sup> Division (Institutional Training) in a Change of Command ceremony at Fort Sill, OK. Maj. Gen. Robert S. Silverthorn, Jr., will relinquish command of the division after serving as the Commanding General for the last four years. Brig. Gen. Archer has been serving as the Assistant Division Commander for Operations of the 95<sup>th</sup> Division since May 2001.

The ceremony will be held Saturday, April 17, 2004 at Fort Sill in the Old Post Quadrangle beginning at 10:00 a.m. Officiating the ceremony will be Lt. Gen. James Helmly, Chief of Army Reserve and Commanding General U. S. Army Reserve Command.

The 95<sup>th</sup> Division (Institutional Training) is a part of the U.S. Army Reserve. More than 4,000 Army Reserve Soldiers serve in the division. The division is headquartered in Oklahoma City, with units located in nine states including: Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. The division provides a vast array of training for Soldiers in a variety of job specialties.

Archer was born in Johnson City, TN, on May 2, 1950. He was a distinguished military graduate commissioned in the regular Army in the Armor branch through the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), on Aug. 2, 1972. He was named the outstanding cadet in First Army area at Advanced Camp in 1971 and was subsequently named one of two outstanding Armor lieutenants entering active duty by the Armor Association. Archer has served for over 31 years in the Active Component, National Guard, and Army Reserve.

He began his military career on active duty and initially served as an Armored Cavalry Platoon Leader in B Troop, 3-7 Cavalry, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, Federal Republic of Germany. He later served as S-3 Air, personnel officer, and Squadron Maintenance Officer. Archer joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard (PAARNG) in 1979 as a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 104<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, and 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He served as Troop Commander and was subsequently Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General, 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

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He transferred to the 80th Division (Training), USAR, in 1984 where he served in the Training Group as Operations/Training Officer and Brigade S-1. In 1987, General Archer became a Reserve Forces Officer (IMA) in the Selective Service System (Tennessee) and served as MEPS Liaison Officer, Area Office Manager, and Detachment Commander.

Rejoining the 80th Division (Training) in 1993, he served as Commander, 3rd Battalion-319th Infantry (OSUT), in the 2nd Brigade. Other key assignments included Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, Commander, 7th Brigade (Training Support), Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, and Chief of Staff. In May 2001, General Archer became Assistant Division Commander Operations, 95th Division (Institutional Training), his current assignment.

General Archer's military education includes Airborne School, Armor Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Motor Officer Course, Air/Ground Operations Course, Command and General Staff College, Battalion/Brigade Pre-Command Course, and the Army War College.

His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (with four oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Award (Bronze Award) Selective Service System, Army Reserve Component Medal (with five oak leaf clusters), National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Medal, Overseas Medal, and Parachute Badge.

He is a Virginia Tech graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research. He also has a masters degree in business from Emory University.

He and his wife Nancy have been married for more than 31 years. They have two children. Their daughter is Leigh A. Brabrand, an attorney, who is married and lives in Richmond, Va. She works for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Their son, James J. Archer, is a software engineer with the Boeing Company. He lives in Manassas, Va. They also have one grandchild, Lauren Grace Brabrand, age 15 months.

General Archer is Executive Vice President for Sales and Marketing for Blue Ridge Beverage Company, Inc. in Salem, Va.

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**Editors Note: A jpg of Brig. Gen. Archer is available at**

<http://www.usarc.army.mil/95thdiv/images/PicSep02/archer%20big.jpg>